

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY France

SUBJECT RPF Service d'Ordre and Affiliated Groups

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Service d'Ordre (SO)

1. The Service d'Ordre is divided into two principal groups - the Service d'Ordre de la Region Parisienne and the Service d'Ordre National. The former includes all SO units in the Seine and Seine-et-Oise and has its headquarters in Paris. This group, headed by Colonel Dominique Ponchardier, has an estimated membership of 15,000, all of whom are well-trained and subject to call at any time. The leaders of this group consider themselves and their units as the elite of the SO organization.
2. On the same level and headed by Jacques Laboureaux is the Service d'Ordre National. This group is made up of SO units from the remainder of France and is not as well-trained or organized as are the units in the Paris Region. Members are classified as P-1, P-2 and P-0. The P-1's are members of the SO in large cities such as Bordeaux, Marseille, Lyon; these members are subject to training similar to that given the SO in the Paris Region and are on call at all times. P-2's are located in large cities and smaller cities and are only subject to call when necessary. P-0's are located in small towns and have only a half-interest in the SO groups.
3. The Service d'Ordre de la Region Parisienne and the Service d'Ordre National are both under the direction of Carre, Delege National pour la Protection.

Defense Anti-Communist (DAC) and Auto Defense (AD) Units

4. The DAC and AD units were made up of the following:
 - a. Groups of foreigners living in France, legally or illegally, whose countries had been taken over by the Communists.
 - b. Former Resistance groups which were not particularly friendly with the Gaullists during the war.
 - c. Former intelligence networks which had worked with the London government during the war, but which were not particularly pro-de Gaulle.
 - d. Amicales formed by ex-soldiers. Some of these groups (Amicale de la 2eme DD) were very pro-Gaullist. The RPF preferred, however, that these groups not join the SO but remain a reserve.
 - e. Groups of former collaborators who had worked with the Germans because of their strong anti-Communist feelings.

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5. These groups when geographically located in the district controlled by the Paris Region SO were called Defense Anti-Communiste. In those regions under the control of the National SO the groups were called Auto-Defense. Because the members of these groups were not necessarily pro-Gaullist, they would not disband their organizations and join the entirely Gaullist SO.

Service d'Ordre Auxilliaire (SOA)

6. The Service d'Ordre Auxilliaire was formed to integrate into one organization those members of the DAC and AD who qualified for membership in the RPF, or who could be propagandized into being Gaullists. It was planned that SOA units would eventually be integrated into the SO. The main purpose of the SOA, however, was to organize the DAC and the AD, keep in liaison with the groups and be responsible for their identity.
7. The SOA venture is generally agreed by SO personnel to be a failure and the organization is gradually being liquidated. The organization failed because:
- a. The SOA recruited for membership individuals who would have qualified for membership in the SO. The SOA appealed to more individuals because it did not demand as much time or training as did the SO.
 - b. Not enough money was available to maintain the SOA and the SO.
 - c. Although many of the DAC and AD leaders agreed to join the SOA, the members who were anti-Gaullist as well as anti-Communist refused to have anything to do with the organization.
8. It has been decided by the RPF to discontinue trying to integrate the DAC and AD units into an RPF-directed organization. However, close liaison will be maintained with the leaders of these groups so that they may be called upon as reserves in case of necessity. (Source pointed out that the DAC and AD are merely individual groups with no general plan or headquarters and had not the RPF invented the names DAC and AD few of these groups would have known of the existence of others.)
9. Liaison between the RPF and these groups is maintained by a certain Prevost.

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